

*Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society*

# *Aquilegia*

## **Annual Conference 2017**

*A Region of Astonishing – and Fragile – Beauty*

**September 8, 9 and 10, 2017**

**Colorado Springs, Colorado**

*Dedicated to the Memory of Tass Kelso*

*Photo Contest*

*Election of At-Large Board of Directors*

*Tribute to Jan and Charlie Turner*

*Book Review by Jack Carter*

# ***The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Colorado Rare Plant Symposium***

## ***and CoNPS Annual Conference 2017***

**Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado**

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 8, 9 and 10, 2017**

The 2017 Colorado Native Plant Society Annual Conference is dedicated to the memory of Tass Kelso, a wonderful and warmhearted person who contributed so much to the study of botany in the Pikes Peak Region. She is greatly missed by the botanical community in the Colorado Springs area, the entire State, and at Colorado College where she taught Botany since 1990. Please take some time to visit the Flora on CC's Herbarium website that Tass compiled: <https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/obe/BiodiversityCollections/herbarium.html>

**Registration Rates:**

\$10	14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Rare Plant Symposium
\$12	Friday Evening CoNPS Pizza Party
\$40	Early Bird (on or before August 20) CoNPS 2017 Annual Conference, CoNPS Member
\$50	Early Bird (on or before August 29) CoNPS 2017 Annual Conference, non-member
\$50	Regular Price (after August 20) CoNPS 2017 Annual Conference, CoNPS Member
\$60	Regular Price (after August 20) CoNPS 2017 Annual Conference, non-member
\$30	Student Member
\$40	Student Non-Member

Scholarships Available at: [https://conps.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/CoNPS-scholarship-application\\_080916.pdf](https://conps.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/CoNPS-scholarship-application_080916.pdf)

Light breakfast and lunch on Saturday are included with registration. Sunday Field Trips are free.

### **Registration info:**

Register online at <https://conps.org>. Members: go to Member Login (upper right corner of home page) then register for each event separately from the Event Calendar

**Parking:**

Friday – off campus street parking  
Saturday - On campus (free on Saturdays) or side streets near the south side of campus.

**Lodging Options:**

The Antlers downtown (has a free shuttle)  
<http://antlers.com/>

Holiday Inn Express Central (has a free shuttle)

And many more hotels!

**Camping:**

Cheyenne Mountain State Park  
Garden of the Gods RV Camping

Donations are also gratefully accepted  
<https://conps.org/mfm-member-login/#myaccount>

- Help support the conference.
- Help support the Scholarship fund. This fund supports registration fees for the Annual Conference, workshops, and field seminars for income -restricted members & non-members.
- The Marr Fund (supports native plant research) and/or the Steinkamp Fund (supports CO rare plant research).

### **Annual Photo Contest !**

Enter Now! One photo per category! First place winner in each category receives \$50. Winning photos will be featured in *Aquilegia*, *ENews*, and on the CoNPS webpage. Members will vote for their favorite photos at the Annual Conference.

Categories:

- \* Colorado Native Plant Landscapes
- \* Colorado Native Plants
- \* Artistic (Native Plants or Landscapes)
- \* Colorado Native Plants & Wildlife (includes insects and pollinators)

Email digital file to [conpspromote@gmail.com](mailto:conpspromote@gmail.com). Deadline to enter is September 5, 2017. Go to homepage <https://conps.org> for [Photo Contest Entry Form](#) [Photo Contest Rules](#)

**Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017; 8:30 am – 4:30 pm**

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Rare Plant Symposium**

**Slocum Commons, Colorado College**

**14 E. Cache la Poudre, Colorado Springs**

***Conservation Efforts and Status Review***

***Imperiled Plants of Southeast Colorado***

**Tentative Agenda**

Registration is \$10 per person online <https://conps.org> or at the door.

8:30 Registration

8:50 Introduction and Ground Rules – *Jennifer Neale (DBG)*

9:00 Review Of Southeast Colorado G2 Plant Species: Status Review, Current Conservation Efforts and Priority Conservation Action Needs - *Jill Handwerk (CNHP)*

10:00 Break

10:15 Review of T&E and G1 Plant Species of Colorado: Status Review, Survey Results, Threats and Current Conservation Efforts - *Jill Handwerk (CNHP)*

11:45 Lunch (on your own)

1:15 Review of Forest Service Sensitive Species - *Tyler Johnson (USFS)*

2:00 Review of BLM Sensitive Species - *Carol Dawson (BLM)*

2:45 Break

3:00 Utilizing the SWAP to Guide Conservation of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Plants in Colorado - *Raquel Wertsbaugh (CNAP)*

3:30 Field Season Highlights: 1. SW CO - *Tyler Johnson (USFS)*;  
2. *Ipomopsis polyantha* Monitoring – *Jessica Smith (CNAP)*

4:30 Adjourn

**CoNPS Annual Pizza Party 5:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Slocum Commons, Colorado College**

**14 E. Cache la Poudre, Colorado Springs**

Join your friends and colleagues for a pizza party and CoNPS bookstore preview  
the evening before the CoNPS Annual Conference.

Enjoy New York style pizza from Poor Richards Downtown, salad, desserts, and lemonade.  
A selection of items from the CoNPS Bookstore will be available for purchase.  
Cost will be \$12 per person (Pre-registration is required.)

Register through <https://conps.org>

**2017 CoNPS Annual Conference**  
***A Region of Astonishing – and Fragile – Beauty***  
**Saturday, September 9, 2017, 9 am-5 pm**

Colorado College, Armstrong Hall, Kathryn Mohrman Theater in Colorado Springs

**Dedicated to the Memory of Tass Kelso**

**CoNPS Annual Conference Agenda**

9:00 CoNPS Welcome and Announcements  
9:20 Tom Schweich: *History of Botanizing in the Pikes Peak Region*  
10:00 Larry Vickerman: *Natives: Beauty with Purpose*  
10:40 Break (bookstore and silent auction)  
11:00 Pat Hayward: *Pretty Tough Plants: Award-winning native plant selections from Plant Select®*  
11:40 Steve Olson: *Bioblitz Information Distribution*  
12:00 Lunch (bookstore and silent auction)  
1:00 Linda Overlin: *Land and Water Preservation in Southern Colorado*  
1:40 Shane Heschel: *Ipomopsis UV Tolerance Tradeoffs: Flower Color and Pollinators*  
2:20 Doris Drisgill: *The Astonishing Beauty of Pikes Peak Alpine Flora*  
3:00 Break (bookstore and silent auction)  
3:20 Judy von Ahlefeldt: *Black Forest Landscape Ecology and Relict Tallgrass Prairie Rare Plants*  
4:00 Closing Keynote: Marion Hourdequin: *Ecological Restoration and Environmental Ethics*  
4:40 CoNPS Closing Remarks and Field Trip Information  
5:00 Adjourn

*CoNPS Bookstore and Silent Auction will be onsite. Light breakfast and lunch are included with registration.*

**Sunday, September 10 - CoNPS Field Trips**  
**9:00 am - noon**

*Blodgett Open Space: At the Edge of the Waldo Fire* by Doris Drisgill  
*Fire Mitigation in Stratton Open Space* by George Cameron

*Fountain Creek Riparian Hike* by Sierra Club

*Grasses of Cheyenne Mountain State Park* by Rich Rhoades

*Xeriscape Demonstration Garden Tour* by Catherine Moravec and Carey Harrington

*Ecology of North Cheyenne Canyon* by Steve Olson

Register for the Conference and the Field Trips through <https://conps.org>  
or at the door on Saturday.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

### SPEAKERS AND ABSTRACTS

#### ***History of Botanizing in the Pikes Peak Region***

**Tom Schweich 9:20 – 10:00 am**

In the years 1803 to 1865, the first United States expeditions near the Pikes Peak region were led by such recognizable names as Lt. Zebulon Pike, Major Stephen H. Long with Dr. Edwin James, John C. Fremont, and Charles C. Parry. We will briefly look at these expeditions, their origins, the plant collections, and how they contributed to our understanding of the botany of the region.

*Tom is a recent introduction to the Colorado flora. He was a curatorial volunteer at the University of California Berkeley and Jepson Herbaria for many years, and a board member of the California Botanical Society. His field work began in what is now Mojave National Preserve, and includes seven years of collecting in the Mono Lake basin, California. He is now collecting in northern Jefferson County including the areas around Golden, North Table Mountain, and Ranson/Edwards Homestead Open Space.*



#### ***Natives: Beauty with Purpose***

**Larry Vickerman 10:00 – 10:40 am**

Gardening is taking on a new purpose. Utilizing native plants and re-creating vestiges of the rich ecosystems that once thrived here help provide critical habitat to a host of insects and wildlife. Make a difference by building biologically active gardens!

*Larry Vickerman obtained a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University in Landscape Management in 1990 and a master's degree in Not-for-Profit Management from the University of Washington in 1993. For the past 12 years he has directed Denver Botanic Garden Chatfield Farms, a 700-acre farm and public garden in Littleton, CO. He has worked in public horticulture and landscape restoration for more than 25 years, and he also maintains an active role in the family ranching business located in Southern Colorado's Wet Mountain Valley.*



#### ***Pretty Tough Plants:***

***Hand-Picked, Award-Winning Colorado Native Plants from Plant Select®***

**Pat Hayward 11:00 – 11:40 am**

As native plant enthusiasts, we revel in the abundance and diversity of plant species our state has to offer. But it can be a challenge to translate that natural beauty to our home gardens and landscapes. Pat Hayward, former director of Plant Select®, will share some of the program's best selections of Colorado native plants that have been discovered and developed by regional horticultural professionals including David Salman, Lauren Springer-Ogden, Panayoti Kelaidis and Kelly Grummons. In this session, you'll learn more about these truly unique, resilient and beautiful plants that have proven to be some of the most successful in our challenging environment



because of their native “roots.” They often offer excellent options for habitat-friendly gardening as well. All of these plants are featured in Plant Select’s new book, *Pretty Tough Plants*.

*Pat has more than 35 years of professional experience in Colorado’s nursery and garden industry, including most recently as Executive Director of Plant Select®. She has also been a columnist for Birder’s World and Colorado Homes & Gardens magazines, and an Environmental Planner for the City of Fort Collins. She offers presentations on gardening in the west at local, regional and national conferences. She and her husband have developed nearly an acre of gardens in rural northern Colorado specializing in dwarf and unusual conifers along with more than 1,000 types of native and waterwise shrubs, trees, groundcovers, perennials, succulents and rock garden plants. She is particularly proud of winning the Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Association Person of the Year award in both 1992 and 2002. Academically, she holds an Associates’ degree in Floriculture Production and a B.S. in Forest Botany from the College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse NY.*

### ***Bioblitz Information Distribution***

#### **Steve Olson 11:40 – 12:00 noon**

Intensively surveying and documenting the flora, fauna and other organisms of a specific area of land is known as a bioblitz. Over the last several years CoNPS has participated in a number of bioblitzes across Colorado. Steve will briefly describe a bioblitz and discuss how the results are distributed.

*Steve Olson is a career Forest Botanist for the US Forest Service based out of Pueblo, Colorado.*



Photo by Steve Olson  
Winds, Clouds and NM Feathergrass  
Comanche National Grassland  
8 miles west of CO-109 above David Canyon Road

### ***Land and Water Preservation in Southern Colorado***

#### **Linda Overlin 1:00 – 1:40 pm**

Colorado is fortunate to have so much federal and state land that already is preserved. However, most of our farm and ranch land, as well as riparian corridors, are in private hands. Much of our water also is tied to these properties. As the Front Range continues to grow, our best chance to preserve these valuable agricultural resources and scenic vistas lies in forming partnerships between farmers, ranchers, and conservationists. Linda will talk about efforts to preserve our Colorado heritage, ecosystems, and public properties through innovative land and water conservation efforts.



*Linda is a 4th generation Coloradan with her roots in the ranching communities of the Lower Arkansas Valley, as well as in the farm country of northern Colorado. Linda and her husband Dave have lived in the Pikes Peak region for over 40 years. A graduate of the University of Colorado with a B.S. in Biology and a M.S. in Riparian Ecology, Linda has taught biology, chemistry, ecology, and botany at both the high school and community college level. She is a Native Plant Master® instructor as well. Linda's passion is her land and water preservation work with Palmer Land Trust as a longtime board member, past President, and a land steward. Through the efforts of this organization, land and water are preserved in perpetuity, through innovative programs and collaborations.*

## ***Ipomopsis* UV Tolerance Tradeoffs: Flower Color and Pollinators**

### **Shane Heschel 1:40 – 2:20 pm**

Ultraviolet (UV) stress is a ubiquitous component of most ecosystems, especially those found at high elevations, but relatively few studies have examined tradeoffs involving UV response physiology. Anthocyanin is a red pigment with known roles in flower color as well as protection of photosynthetic machinery from UV light. *Ipomopsis aggregata* can produce scarlet flowers with high levels of anthocyanin in order to attract hummingbirds as pollinators. These high levels of anthocyanin also protect leaves from UV damage. In some high elevation populations, *I. aggregata* produce less anthocyanin and have pink flowers, which attract moths as pollinators. This lack of anthocyanin at higher elevations is interesting because UV protection is more important at elevations where UV levels are higher. Reduced anthocyanin levels in pink varieties may represent a cost of pollinator attraction; lower anthocyanin levels at higher elevations might result in damage to photosynthetic machinery.



*Shane Heschel is Associate Professor, Chair, Organismal Biology and Ecology, Colorado College. His research interests include the following: physiological ecology of plant populations, particularly in stressful environments; local adaptation and the evolution of physiological mechanisms; factors driving the local extinction of plant populations; and conservation genetics. Shane graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana with a B.S. and M.S., and from Brown University with a Ph.D.*

## **The Astonishing Beauty of Pikes Peak Alpine Flora**

### **Doris Drisgill 2:20 – 3:00 pm**

A slideshow to illustrate the beauty, diversity and hardiness of plants above treeline on Pikes Peak.

*Doris started leading field trips for wildflowers as a docent for the El Paso County Parks in 1993. She is an enthusiastic amateur, having taken botany seminars with George Cameron, Linda and Richard Beidleman, and the Colorado Trail Foundation. She has been active with the CoNPS SE Chapter since it began about 2001, serving as co-president for a number of years and leading field trips every season. Her favorite habitats are alpine and subalpine, where many of the most beautiful flowers nature has produced can be found in the most spectacular settings.*



## **Black Forest Landscape Ecology and Relict Tallgrass Prairie Rare Plants**

### **Judy von Ahlefeldt 3:20 – 4:00**

Black Forest spans the Palmer Divide separating the South Platte and Arkansas River watersheds east of Colorado's Front Range. This area hosts plants from the northern and southern Great Plains and is also a meeting place for Great Plains and Rocky Mountain floras. A special feature is the presence of relictual tallgrass big-bluestem/little bluestem, tallgrass prairie, associated grasses, and disjunct, relictual forbs. The disastrous 2014 Black Forest fire burned the prime habitat areas for the prairie relict species and the 2015 assessment determined that they not only survived the fire, they thrived.



Teacher, author, ecologist and publisher, Judy von Ahlefeldt has been studying the Black Forest for 47 years. She has been a member of CoNPS since the late 1970s, and organized a bioblitz, with support of CoNPS, the Colorado Natural Heritage Program and the Denver Botanic Gardens to assess the post-fire status of tallgrass prairie relict species in 2015. Her Ph.D. dissertation is on the Landscape Ecology of the Palmer Divide where Black Forest is located.

### **Closing Keynote: *Ecological Restoration and Environmental Ethics***

**Marion Hourdequin 4:00 – 4:40 pm**

The practice of ecological restoration provides a valuable opportunity for humans to contribute to the recovery of ecological systems that have been damaged. Restoration also seems to offer a hopeful and redemptive model for human-nature relations. Yet restoration is a complex practice that provokes deep questions about human intervention in nature, its aims, and its consequences. For example, although goals of restoration may at first seem obvious, establishing these goals can be complex and controversial, raising complex ethical questions. Such questions provide a window through which to reflect more broadly on human relationships to the natural world. Drawing on a series of case studies, this talk seeks to illuminate the challenges and promises of ecological restoration, and to suggest that the engaged, place-based, contextually-sensitive approaches of naturalists such as Aldo Leopold provide important lessons for both restoration and environmental ethics today.



*Marion Hourdequin (Associate Professor and Chair, Philosophy Department, Colorado College) specializes in environmental philosophy. Her research and teaching interests also include ethics, comparative philosophy, animal studies, and philosophy of science. Marion's current research focuses on climate ethics, climate justice, and the social and ethical dimensions of ecological restoration. She is the author of Environmental Ethics: From Theory to Practice (Bloomsbury, 2015), and editor, with David Havlick, of Restoring Layered Landscapes (Oxford, 2015). She serves as an Associate Editor for the journal Environmental Values, and is on the editorial board of Environmental Ethics.*

## Sunday, September 10, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

### CoNPS Annual Conference Field Trips

**Field Trips details:** If you have already registered for the Annual Conference, please sign up separately from the conference for your preferred field trip. Field trips are available on a first come, first served basis. There will only be time to go on one field trip.

**Blodgett Open Space: At the Edge of the Waldo Fire** by Doris Drisgill. Hike 3-4 miles in city park space north of Mountain Shadows, where 345 houses burned. Hike up to the edge of the burn to see what is re-growing there, and get great views of town and the plains. (15 max)

**Fire Mitigation in Stratton Open Space** by George Cameron. Study the City of Colorado Springs' efforts at fire mitigation in Stratton Open Space. (15 max)

**Fountain Creek Riparian Hike** by the Sierra Club. Explore the riparian area flora and learn about the policies that have shaped this regional park. (15 max)



**Grasses of Cheyenne Mountain State Park** by Rich Rhoades. Easy hike, max distance is 1.4 miles on Coyote Trail. Park at the State Park Visitor Center (a State Parks pass is required). A daily pass is only \$7 and carpooling is an option. Identify about 20 grasses, so bring your favorite grass key (Wingate preferred). (15 max)

#### **Colorado Springs Utilities** **Xeriscape Demonstration Garden Tour**

by Catherine Moravec and Carey Harrington. Tour the garden with its award-winning Waterwise Neighborhood demonstration front yards, new vegetable garden irrigation display, as well as plenty of Plant Select® and native plants throughout. (25 max)



**Ecology of North Cheyenne Canyon** by Steve Olson. Hike the Seven Bridges area and discuss greenback cutthroat trout, human use, redoing trails, mining claims, and more. (15 max)

# CoNPS Silent Auction

We are only weeks away from the Annual Conference and we have a lot of fun and exciting things for the Silent Auction this year, including:

- An original oil painting of Boulder Creek by Molly Davis valued at \$650
- A pallet of Native Turf Grass from TurfMaster Sod valued at \$530
- Gift cards, books, art, plants and more!

Proceeds support CoNPS' wide-ranging projects including education, conservation, native plant gardening, and botanical and horticultural publications and activities.

If you are interested in a full list of auction items prior to the conference day, please email [bethannebane@gmail.com](mailto:bethannebane@gmail.com). If you are not attending the conference, but wish to purchase using a credit card for the Buy It Now price then you can claim the item before it goes live at the Silent Auction! *First come, first serve. Must pick up in Longmont or pay for shipping.*

We are grateful for your support and we cannot thank you enough for making this year's Conference a huge success! If you or your business are interested in donating an item for the silent auction, please contact BethAnne Bane: [bethannebane@gmail.com](mailto:bethannebane@gmail.com)

Some ideas for items you may already have on hand or wish to purchase and donate:

- \* Gift cards
- \* Art that has outlived your enjoyment
- \* Gently used backpacks or other outdoor gear
- \* Something that you can't figure out who to regift to
- \* A bottle of wine or liquor
- \* Outdoor plants (seedlings or ones you need to divide)
- \* Houseplants
- \* Garden art/statues/chimes in 'like new' condition
- \* Money that we can use to make a great gift basket

Please let me know if you have an item or an idea for an item and we can discuss if it's a potential candidate.

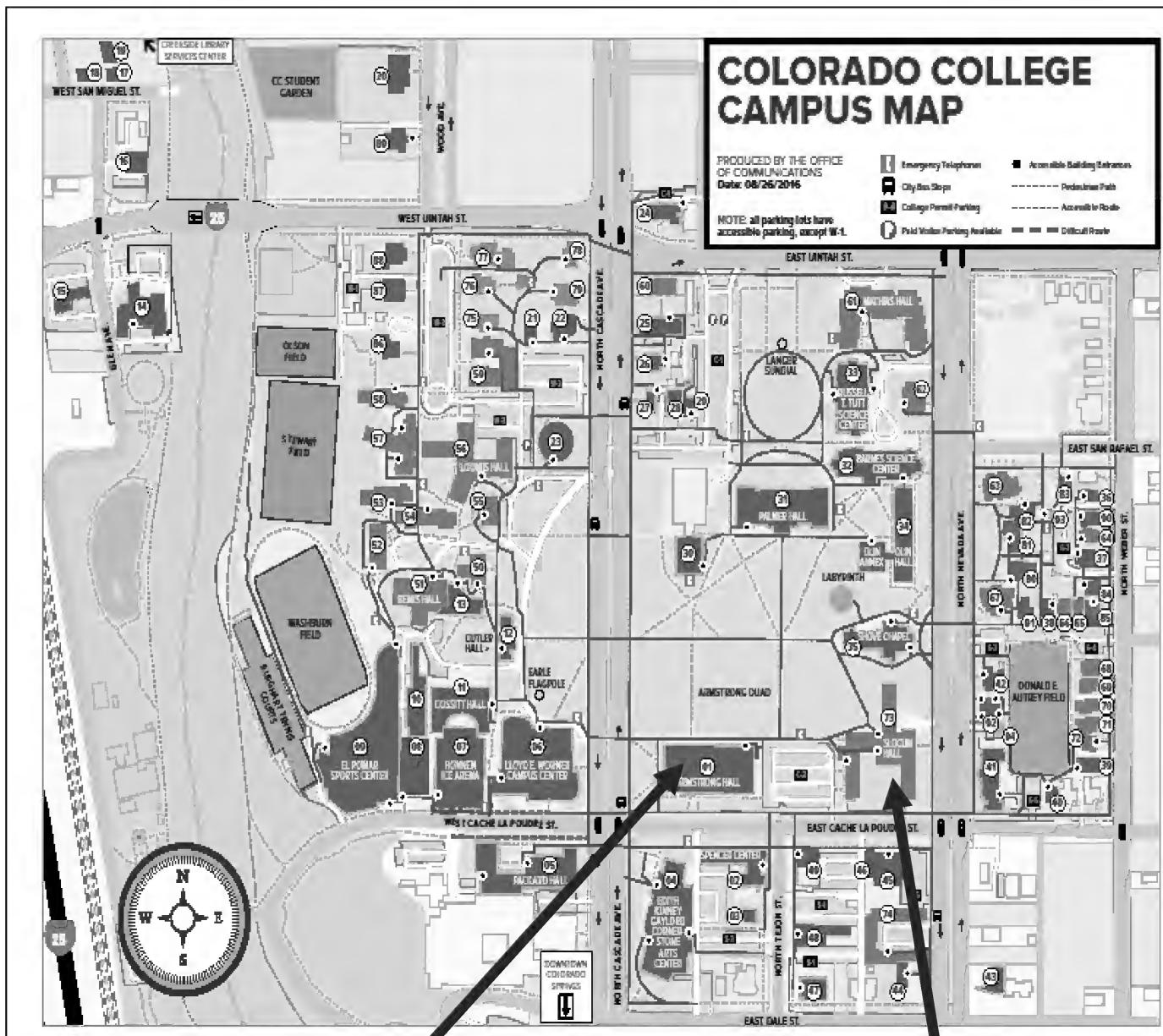
**Door Prize Too! - Bring some dollar bills with you** to the Saturday Conference because there will be a cash donation box. For each donated \$1 you will receive 1 door prize ticket. A \$5 donation will receive 6 door prize tickets. The winner of the door prize will receive half of the door prize donations!

## Note from the Board

*Jan Turner has recently made the decision to retire as Editor of Aquilegia due to many family obligations. We consider ourselves lucky and proud to have had Jan as our Editor for the last four years. Every single issue has highlighted CoNPS events and members to the highest level possible, making Aquilegia one of the best, if not the best, native plant society newsletter in the country. Our thanks and appreciation to you, Jan.*

*Jan will be sending out the Summer issue shortly, which she has decided will be her last issue, but, because of her personal time constraints, she asked that this issue, the Annual Conference issue, be completed by CoNPS Staff and Board so it could get to our members quickly.*

*Please be sure to read the personal tribute to Jan and Charlie  
written by Metro-Denver Chapter President, Lenore Mitchell on page 15.*



Armstrong Hall – Saturday, Sept 9, 2017  
CoNPS 2017 Annual Conference

Slocum Commons, Friday, Sept 8, 2017  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Rare Plant Symposium  
and CoNPS Pizza Party

***Aquilegia* Vol. 41 No. 3 Annual Conference Issue**

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**Conference Sales Committee:** Patrick Murphy, Linda Smith, Denise Wilson

**2016 Annual Conference Planning Committee:** Jennifer Bousselot, BethAnn Bane, Jack Carter, Preston Cumming, Rich Rhoades, Doris Drisgill, Bev Flynn, Carey Harrington, Shane Heshel, Judith Rice-Jones, Tom Schweich, Judy von Ahlefeldt, Michael Weber, and hopefully YOU! If you would like to volunteer to help out, or be a reporter or photographer at the conference, please contact Jen Bousselot at [conpspromote@gmail.com](mailto:conpspromote@gmail.com).

Cover (Garden of the Gods), Fountain Creek and Cheyenne Mountain State Park Photos by Linda Smith.

# ELECTION OF AT-LARGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It's that time of year again. Please vote for new members of the CoNPS At-Large Board of Directors. We have six openings and we have six excellent candidates for these positions. Each candidate has submitted a bio for your information. Voting is open only to CoNPS members. Voting will remain open online and at the Annual Conference until Sunday, September 10, at <https://conps.org/2017-conps-board-elections/#!form/2017BoardElections>. New officers will be elected by the Board of Directors in the coming months.

## **Ann M. Grant**

Ann is a native of New Jersey, but spent her winter vacations skiing and summers hiking Colorado's mountains. She moved to Colorado 19 years ago and for 13 years ran a propagation nursery, East Vine Farms, with her husband Butch Hartson. Once retired for the second time, she began to pursue her passion for native plants in earnest. She is a Master Naturalist with the City of Fort Collins, and volunteers with plant surveys and seed collection in the Natural Areas. She does propagation at the Gardens on Spring Creek and volunteers at the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. She became a Native Plant Master® last year and is studying to become an instructor. With her background in horticulture, her passion is bringing native plants into home gardens. She is currently Chair, Northern Chapter Committee on Gardening with Natives. For years she was a member of CNGA, the Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association, and served in various positions on their Board and as liaison to ProGreen Expo, the annual trade association conference for the "green" industry. She has an A. B. and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Rutgers University.

"I think it is very important that the Native Plant Society work vigorously to engage the public with native plant conservation and awareness. With the recent national conversation about native plants and pollinators—their importance to re-creating habitat and as the foundation of ecosystems—we have an opportunity to engage the public as never before. We should extend our partnerships with groups such as the National Audubon Society and others to promote the use of Colorado natives in home gardens, by homeowners' associations, and in retail and commercial landscaping. Many of our natural areas, open spaces and parks need more native plants to restore and re-create habitat. We should reach out to cities and counties to promote greater use of natives on government properties. We should work with the retail and commercial green industry to promote natives and landscaping with natives through their trade organizations. If elected, these are goals I would work towards for the Colorado Native Plant Society."

## **BethAnne Bane**

"When I moved to Colorado in 2013, I fell in love with the diverse and beautiful landscape. At the same time I've watched development occur on a massive scale and witnessed the loss of natural and wild areas all around me. While tragic, I have met many people working hard to find ways to protect and care for this land. The Colorado Native Plant Society is a great organization made up of kind, like-minded people who welcomed me, educated me, inspired me, and teamed with me to make a difference in the changing world around us.

An ambassador by nature, I work to further CoNPS' mission of education by working to resolve the misconception that you must be an academically-trained botanist and speak Latin to be part of any native plant society. I am an avid gardener that sees the advantage of having plants that support the local ecosystem and require me to use little or no supplemental water. That is a benefit that most people want to receive. I enjoy bridging the perceived gap between the scientist and the average gardener.

Volunteer experience includes: Colorado Native Plant Society - Annual Conference Silent Auction Coordinator. I coordinated the Silent Auction and increased the funds raised in 2016 by 500%; Scholarship Fund Committee - I work with the Board and other volunteers to review and approve scholarship requests for CoNPS events; IT Event Support - I have volunteered to help set up and monitor laptops and overhead projectors in both Landscaping Conferences as well as the 2016 Annual Conference; Garden Tours - I have participated in the planning for the 2016 and 2017 Boulder Garden tours and I volunteered at Cherry Creek HOA 3 on the 2017 Denver Garden Tour. Wildlands Restoration Volunteers - Crew Leader - I participate in Ecological Restoration Projects and Seed Collection Projects where I am assigned a team of volunteers to

complete an assigned task, and I instruct the team on any number of items that we need to focus on to achieve our goals, such as seed collection techniques, methods for planting native plants chosen for the project, and tool safety. Boulder County Peck Garden - Garden Volunteer - I help to maintain this garden used for growing locally collected plants for the purpose of collecting seed for use in restoration projects. Boulder Environmental Coalition - I participate in a group consisting of seven Boulder County conservation organizations (including CoNPS Boulder Chapter.) The mission of this group is to support the unfragmented preservation of conservation areas in Boulder County and to participate and encourage public process with the City of Boulder where thriving ecology and wildlife is at stake.

I am a Senior IT Project Manager for a major healthcare insurance provider. I am very organized and skilled at planning and coordinating projects through to completion. I also take accurate minutes for meetings and track action items to ensure that projects are completed in a timely and efficient fashion. I am skilled at identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement. I have experience leading new business development efforts, digital communication campaigns, and large conferences."

## **Chrissy Alba**

Christina (Chrissy) Alba learned to love nature and especially plants while growing up on a farm in Massachusetts. After earning a degree in English, she decided to return to school for plant ecology with the aim to make her love of nature into a career. She earned her master's and Ph.D. degrees in Plant Ecology at Colorado State University, where she conducted floristics surveys on the shortgrass steppe and studied the biology of invasive species, which threaten Colorado's native flora. Chrissy also taught Botany and Plant Biology while at CSU. Chrissy's graduate research was greatly enhanced by funding that she received in 2005 and 2009 from the CoNPS John W. Marr Fund. As part of her funding award, Chrissy presented her research findings at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and wrote about her work in the Society's wonderful newsletter, *Aquilegia*.

After completing several years of post-doctoral training at the Institute of Botany in Prague, Czech Republic, and most recently at the University of Florida, Chrissy has begun a research position in floristics at the Denver Botanic Gardens. At this point in her career, she is ready to give back to the Society by serving as a board member-at-large. There are several plant conservation issues that the Society has the expertise, collective voice, and leverage to address, including the effects of habitat loss, biological invasions, and climate change on Colorado's native flora. Educating students, teachers, and the general public about these pressing issues is a critical mission of the Society, and continuing this mission will require innovative approaches to funding Society operations. As such, a main goal of Chrissy's in the role of board member-at-large would be to help the Society identify and apply for funding that will support its mission of connecting people to plants for generations to come.

## **Deryn Davidson**

Deryn Davidson holds a B.S. in Horticulture from Colorado State University and a Master's of Landscape Architecture from the University of Arizona. Her passion for native plants and pollinators grew during her time as a horticulturist at the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, TX. Currently, Deryn is the CSU Horticulture Extension Agent for Boulder County, a position in which she enjoys combining her training in design and horticulture with ecological function and helping people discover new ways to incorporate native plants and pollinator habitat into their home landscapes through good design and responsible horticultural practices.

Deryn has been a member of CoNPS since moving back to her home state in 2014. She immediately sought out the group to strengthen both personal and professional ties to the community of native plant supporters and enthusiasts. She has been involved in the Horticulture and Restoration Committee, is part of the planning committee for the Landscaping with Colorado Native Plants Conference and helped complete the 5 regional booklets on native landscaping as a part of the conference. As a horticulturist, Deryn feels passionately that incorporating native plants into home yards has lasting positive impacts on the ecology of the larger landscapes in which she lives and recreates. She is excited about the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors and believes that advocating and educating people is one of CoNPS' biggest strengths to help spread the word about the importance of protecting native plants in the wild and bringing them into our urban environments.

## **Preston Cumming**

Dr. W. F. Preston Cumming received his Ph.D. in Geography in 2013 from the University of Colorado, Boulder. His primary research interests lie in ecology and biometeorology, working on micro- and macro-climatic variability in climate and how both native and non-native species respond. He currently serves as a Lead Coordinator for STEM and Social Sciences with the Graduate Teacher Program at CU Boulder working with 50 graduate student representatives across 47 fields in peer consultation, leadership, and discipline specific pedagogy. Additionally, he is the Communications co-head for the Graduate and Professional Student Special Interest Group with the Professional and Organizational Development Network, a national organization for faculty and graduate student educational development.

Preston has been a member of the Colorado Native Plant Society for 8 years with the Boulder Chapter. Preston has volunteered to help work on the Conference Committee for the upcoming Colorado Native Plant Society (CoNPS) Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs and is very excited to gain more experience as an active member of CoNPS through this position. With an unknown future for funding and research in the sciences, there comes an increased need for grassroots organizations to tackle issues of the effects of urbanization, protection of native habitats, and climate change throughout Colorado. It is imperative that organizations such as CoNPS play an active role in communication, education, and research in these areas. As a Board Member-at-Large, Preston desires to become more involved with community efforts to improve our understanding of the resistance and resiliency of our native plant communities to future change and will work tirelessly to achieve the goals set forth.

## **Tom Zeiner**

Tom Zeiner is a professional geologist, but native plants have become his avocation and passion over the last 15 years. Although he took a year of Botany in college before discovering geology, it was moving to Green Mountain in Lakewood that hooked him again. Wandering the trails, he began to learn the natives, then to track their bloom times. That led to taking Native Plant Master® Program classes, which taught him how a botanist sees things. He enjoys passing these lessons on to others and leads hikes on Green Mountain and at the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival, integrating geology, geo-botany and wildflowers.

Becoming involved with CoNPS five years ago, Tom was impressed by the level of commitment and quality of programs offered. The opportunity to learn and share with fellow plant nerds was too good to pass up. Tom has been a member of the Conservation and Education Committees, and has participated in several educational opportunities, leading public field trips and managing booths at conferences. He's also helped with the Scholarship Committee and hopes that will allow students or young workers to further their involvement with the Society.

Tom promotes CoNPS at the Wildflower Festival and elsewhere when meeting wildflower newbies, since he believes this will boost their enthusiasm for native plants. It's like nudging people into learning about science as they hike.

Tom believes the Board should advocate for science and for the preservation of native species. By drawing new members, we can help spread an awareness of the interconnectedness of nature. By communicating with the legislature we can assure the voice of science is not only heard, but is understood.

Tom would appreciate the opportunity to serve as an At-Large Board member and hopes his background can provide diversity to the Board.

# Tribute to Charlie and Jan Turner

by Lenore Mitchell

It'd be easy to tell about Charlie and Jan's many attributes, to list all they accomplished while serving as co-Presidents of CoNPS for the past three years. Many of you have known the Turners for years, perhaps longer than I have, while new members may know their names but not much else. So here are my personal memories, my recollections about these two friends.

Getting to know Jan: Picture this scenario which occurred over a decade ago at Lair o Bear, a Jeffco Open Space park not far from Evergreen, CO. The anxious mentee hoping to become a Native Plant Master trainer - that was me, trying not to act nervous, fingering my notes and hoping not to blunder too badly. Enter Jan, soft-spoken and always smiling. During scouting trips where we made lists of plants to teach, I realized that Jan was bursting with knowledge, and I wondered how I'd ever measure up. On the first class day, we headed down the trail followed by a dozen or so adults eager to learn names and facts about plants. As the course progressed, enough of Jan's quiet confidence rubbed off on me that I relaxed a bit and realized that teaching about plants is a great way to keep learning. So because of Jan's initial guidance, I've kept learning while teaching NPM classes for over 12 years. Thanks, Jan!



Getting to know Charlie: This scenario occurred in the Turner's backyard during one of CoNPS' garden tours, also many years ago. While strolling among the native plants, I especially admired the blooms on an enormous *Mirabilis multiflora*. Without further ado, Charlie grabbed a shovel, dug up a piece of that plant, potted it up and handed it to me. I don't remember for sure, but I think my jaw dropped. No one had ever done something like that for me. But Charlie was nonchalant, happy to share. I've never forgotten his generosity or his easy smile.



Both accomplished photographers, in 2009 they produced and published a wonderful spiraled book, *Wildflowers of Red Rocks Park*, which features the best format I've seen in a wildflower photo book because it includes an inflorescence close-up, a photo of the entire plant and they top it off with detailed explanations. This is the fourth in their series, all still available through the CoNPS bookstore.

Our paths didn't cross much again until Jan asked me to join the CoNPS Board several years ago, presenting an opportunity to learn more about the group as well as about the Turners. Myriad details came up at each Board meeting, and the Turners were always prepared to present options and lead discussions. In addition, over the past couple of years, Charlie was instrumental in helping Mo Ewing set up the new website and in automating member profiles and renewal data. Jan still seemed soft spoken, Charlie still smiling and easy-going.

Although I'd attended several past conferences, it wasn't until the past two years that I realized how much time and effort went into organizing these events. Jan and Charlie arranged for the 2015 conference to be held at the Mountaineering Center in Golden. Talk about details! They had a hand in everything from gently twisting arms for speaker commitments to coordinating the always popular silent auction. Charlie even found time to make and donate bee blocks. They saw to it that there



Photo courtesy Lenore Mitchell

was fruit and hot coffee for the morning crowd, food trucks at lunch, and pizza at day's end. The 2016 conference in Boulder was even bigger, partly due to the 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration. Even from their winter hideout in Arizona, they managed to start pulling things together, not only planning speakers, but also making special arrangements for a Founder's panel which proved to be a highlight. Both years, whatever needed doing, they managed it, fixed it, did it. They were here, there and everywhere, seemingly all at once.

But heading up the conference committee was just the half of it. As editor of *Aquilegia*, Jan not only arranged many conference details, she also wrote about everything, from promotional aspects to complete layout and production of *Aquilegia* conference editions.

In regard to *Aquilegia*, since the Summer 2013 issue, Jan has edited and produced up to forty-page editions so professionally done and bursting with interesting photos and articles that her work gained kudos in the prestigious publication *Taxon: the International Journal of Plant Taxonomy*, with Rudolf Schmid therein

noting her "colorful and newsy style" and complimenting the "new dimension of excellence." All issues of *Aquilegia* are available on the CoNPS website.

And if all that didn't keep her busy enough, in 2016, Jan also single-handedly arranged for a lengthy list of summer field seminars, resulting in many happy participants as well as profits to further CoNPS' goals.

Odds are that many of you have seen both Jan and Charlie on one or more CoNPS-sponsored hikes in the past few years, as they've been active and eager participants, showing by example how much fun it is to get out there and keep learning, keep loving Colorado flora.

What I've learned from Charlie and Jan is that hard work, while sometimes exhausting, can also be fun. If you run into the Turners on the trail, smile and say hi, but be sure to ask if they'll show you which plant they're studying because it's bound to be interesting.

As CoNPS moves on to different leaders, it's worth noting again that 2016 marked CoNPS' 40th year. With close to a thousand statewide members, it takes dedicated leaders and also many volunteers to keep CoNPS successful. Many Presidents have served CoNPS since Dr. William Weber and others founded the group in 1976, and matter of fact, the Turners also served as Presidents once before, for a grand total of six years over the last two decades – amazing dedication.

We thank you both, Jan and Charlie!



Photo courtesy Lenore Mitchell

### Jan and Charlie,

**On behalf of our Members, the Board of Directors wishes to thank you both for your many years of service on this Board. The Colorado Native Plant Society would not be what it is today without your dedication, countless hours devoted to the Society, expertise in so many areas, your professionalism, and most of all, your friendship, which means so much to so many. Thank you, Jan and Charlie.**

## **Book Review by Jack Carter**

### ***Environmental Ethics: From Theory to Practice***

#### **by Marion Hourdequin, 2015, Bloomsbury Publishing**

I write this review to encourage members of the Colorado Native Plant Society to read this important publication. This book provides a foundation, or an improved understanding of the connections among plants, other living systems, and the future of Planet Earth. I have lived most my life with a personal philosophy I have labeled *Carterism*, but it has at times been difficult to explain and justify my positions in making environmental considerations. This book has aided me in developing the larger picture and in making connections with a much larger group of ideas and authors. In the first chapter, in 27 pages, I was confronted with the largest group of related references I have ever known.

Much closer to home, as a child I could never make clear to my parents why I always wanted to spend so many hours in the 10 acres of pasture just behind our home. They never seemed to understand why the box-elder tree, and the eastern meadowlark that constructed a nest in that tree, were so important to me. Or how I could enjoy, and wanted to observe the walnuts developing on those large, beautiful, trees each growing season. Why was sitting in my own tree house so much more important to me than sitting in a classroom all day?

Marion Hourdequin has written a book that pulls many of the scattered notes I have collected, in my head and on paper, the thoughts drawn from so many authors I have read in ecology and evolution, and in fact the major concepts in the plant and animal sciences in my development of *Carterism*. She has gathered it all together into what she has identified as a philosophy of environmental ethics, and it is a giant step forward.

In two parts, titled *Environmental Values* and *Environmental Ethics in Practice*, with four chapters in each section, she has pulled together so much of the critical literature. Under the rubric of biologic sciences, and with various aspects of science education and human behavior, she has developed a philosophy for people of all ages. In my second trip through the eight chapters, I found myself sorting the important ideas presented by ages or grade levels at which the concepts might be relevant. It seemed to me that there were laboratory and field activities that could be developed in the middle school or high school for teachers and students, a large number of concepts belonged in the university classroom, and much that should be leveled at the larger society in many formats and all ages. I would certainly encourage our political leadership to study this book before they ever attempt to make decisions concerning the future of life on this small Planet.

As I studied through the references in each chapter, and the 14 pages in the bibliography at the close of the book, I was amazed at the literature utilized in developing this publication. Chapter 3, titled *Anthropocentrism and Its Critics*, should be studied by any person planning to teach the life sciences or biology in the public schools. Respect for life, the living earth, and the shift to a biocentric ethic are presented based on the published works of Peter Singer, Kenneth Goodpasture, James Lovelock, Aldo Leopold, Katie McShane and other distinguished authors.

This an extremely important book, as I stated in the first sentence, and it must reach a large audience. It may be criticized by perhaps some economists, religious leaders, and scientists, but if we are to conserve Planet Earth for future generations, it must be taken seriously.

One criticism of this publication is the 'missing' chapter concerning the world's human population that has increased far beyond all ethical limits of reality. All other living organisms are being challenged and many eliminated by one large mammal that knows no limits.

*Note: Normally a book review would not be included in the Annual Conference issue of Aquilegia, but because Marion is our keynote speaker, and Jack had just completed his book review, we thought this would be the perfect opportunity for inclusion.* Pic (ISBN: HB 978-1-47250-808-90) 240 pp. Paper.



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## **Friday, 9/8/2017**

### **14 Annual Rare Plant Symposium**

**Slocum Commons, Colorado College  
Colorado Springs, CO  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm**

### **CoNPS Pizza Party !**

**Slocum Commons, Colorado College  
Colorado Springs, CO  
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

## **Saturday, 9/9/2017**

### **Colorado Native Plant Society**

**2017 Annual Conference  
Armstrong Hall, Colorado College  
Colorado Springs, CO  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm**

## **Sunday, 9/10/2017**

### **Colorado Native Plant Society Field Trips**

**9:00 am – 12 noon**

**Early Bird Registration Discount Deadline is August 20!**

### **Also in this Issue**

**Voting Info for CoNPS At-Large Board of Directors Positions!  
Tribute to Jan and Charlie Turner !  
Book Review by Jack Carter !  
Photo Contest !**